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Quadrennial reports for the period 1998-2001, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

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Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America*

(Special consultative status granted in 1998)

Introduction

The Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America (OSPAAAL) is an international non-governmental organization that was founded on 15 January 1966. Its 36 years of work confirm that its main objective is the defence of the solidarity existing among the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America and promoting actions and initiatives that strengthen friendship, understanding, cooperation and unity among third world nations in relation to their rights to independence, sovereignty, self-determination and territorial integrity.

The main themes of these initiatives and actions relate to programmes, resolutions and other legal and political instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other organs of the United Nations system. These themes include: eradicating colonialism and other forms of oppression; defending national identity; respect for human rights in their comprehensive and indivisible aspects; peacekeeping and promoting solutions to regional conflicts; defending the right to social development; confronting neoliberal practices; eradicating poverty; abolishing all forms of racial, gender and ethnic discrimination, xenophobia and all forms of exclusion; and protecting women's and children's rights.

The organization has 56 member organizations in 46 countries and is directed by an international Executive Secretariat, composed, on the basis of equitable geographic distribution, of organizations from Angola, Chile, Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Guatemala, Guinea, Palestine, Puerto Rico, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam, where the General Secretariat is located.

OSPAAAL self-finances its activities through voluntary donations from its members, occasional donations from organizations and other institutions with which it collaborates, and sales of its magazine and other political materials. It publishes the magazine *Tricontinental* in Spanish and English, with a print run of 3,000 copies; the digital version may be found at the web site: www.tricontinental.cubaweb.cu.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations conferences:

1998

Vienna Plus Five Global NGO Forum on Human Rights, organized by Canada's Human Rights Internet, in coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ottawa, 22-24 June. In September, the editorial team for the final

* Issued without formal editing.

document submitted by the Latin American and Caribbean Group on Written Contributions to the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development began advising the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

1999

Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 31 March-16 April. Oral statements were made on agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14.

2000

Fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 28 March-14 April. Oral statements were made on agenda items 9, 10 and 11 and a joint statement was made on item 12 of the agenda of the Millennium Forum, held in New York from 22 to 26 May. The organization took part in the process of regional thematic consultations and a joint written contribution was submitted by Cuban and international non-governmental organizations with headquarters in Cuba. A representative was not sent because a visa to enter the United States of America was not authorized in time.

Special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and further initiatives, Geneva, 26-30 June. A joint written contribution was submitted by Cuban and international non-governmental organizations with headquarters in Cuba.

2001

Forum of the Americas for Diversity and Pluralism, in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Ecuador, 13-16 March.

Fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 24 March-15 April.

Oral statements were made on agenda items 9, 11 and 14, and joint ones were made on agenda items 8 and 10 of the NGO World Forum and World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban, 27 August-7 September. A joint written contribution was submitted by Cuban and international non-governmental organizations with headquarters in Cuba and oral statements were made on the theme of reparations and compensation and at the special session on Palestine and condemnation of Zionism as a form of racism.

2002

Rio plus 10 Preparatory Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 28-29 January. Fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 27 March-10 April. Joint oral statements were made on agenda items 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 (delays in the programme affected the individual contributions of non-governmental organizations). World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 19 August-4 September. A joint written contribution was submitted by Cuban and international non-governmental organizations with headquarters in Cuba.

Cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies

The organization has a long history of active participation and cooperation in the work of the Division for Palestinian Rights and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. In close collaboration with both, it organized the first and second International Conferences in Solidarity with the Palestinian People in Athens and Mexico, in 1999 and 2002, respectively. OSPAAAL representatives have been invited as experts to meetings of the Committee in Athens (May 2000), Madrid (July 2001) and New York (September 2002). OSPAAAL was chosen by the Committee to coordinate, chair and head the drafting group for the programme of action of the NGO Workshop with which the United Nations Latin American and Caribbean Meeting on the Question of Palestine, held in Havana from 12 to 16 June 2001, concluded.

OSPAAAL cooperated with the Group of 77 and was the organizer and host, together with three Cuban non-governmental organizations, of the international Forum on "NGOs of the South and the challenges of globalization", which preceded the South Summit held in Havana in March 2000.

The organization participated in the panel of non-governmental organizations as part of the programme of the Regional Seminar of the Committee on Decolonization, held in Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001. An oral statement was made relating to the cases of Puerto Rico and Western Sahara.

Representatives of the organization have actively participated in the four International Meetings of Economists on Globalization and Development Problems, organized annually (since 1999) by the National Association of Cuban Economists (ANEC), in coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank. The editor of the organization's magazine, *Tricontinental*, was the spokesperson at those meetings.

Other relevant activities

Other conferences, international seminars and activities convened and organized by OSPAAAL

1998

Regional meeting on "Central America and the Caribbean: emigration and human rights", in coordination with the Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America (CODEHUCA), Guatemala City, 15-16 May.

Meeting of the Executive Secretariat with African diplomatic representatives on the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), 22 May.

International workshop on the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, organized by Cuban and international non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with headquarters in Cuba, Havana, 24-25 September.

1999

"Africa in the OSPAAAL", poster exhibition on the thirty-sixth anniversary of OAU, 27 May.

Reception for the Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau, OSPAAAL headquarters, 13 September.

2000

Meeting to commemorate the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Arab League, 24 March.

Cultural evening on the thirty-seventh anniversary of OAU, in coordination with Africa House, Cuba, 19 May.

2001

Special high-level session of the OSPAAAL Executive Secretariat on the thirty-fifth anniversary of the organization, Havana, 15-21 January.

Meeting of the Executive Secretariat with African diplomatic missions on the thirty-eighth anniversary of OAU (29 May), and contribution to the exhibition on African culture.

2002

Meeting of the Executive Secretariat with African diplomatic missions on the thirty-ninth anniversary of OAU, 31 May.

Participation in international conferences and seminars organized by other organizations and institutions (including oral statements)

1998

Fourth International Seminar on Peace, Natural Resources, Sovereignty and Society, organized by the regional office of the World Peace Council (WPC), Havana, 12-14 March.

International workshop on "Structural adjustment in Africa", organized by the Centre for Studies on Africa and the Middle East (CEAMO), Havana, 1-2 April.

International Encounter of Solidarity Among Cuban Women (FMC), with participation by the reporting group of the commission on women, sovereignty, national independence and solidarity, Havana, 10-13 April.

Symposium on "Africa and the Future", organized by CEAMO, Havana, 26 May.

International round table on "The Asian financial crisis", organized by the Centre of Asian and Oceanic Studies (CEAO), Havana, 4 June.

Second international symposium on "The Arab presence in America", organized by the Arab Union of Cuba, Havana, 10-12 September.

Fifth Seminar on "Current problems in Africa and the Middle East", organized by CEAMO, Havana, 18-20 November.

1999

North-South Meeting for Reflection and Solidarity, Dominican Republic, 5-7 November. Sixth seminar on "Current problems in Africa and the Middle East", organized by CEAMO, Havana, 24-26 November.

Second International Meeting on Cooperation with Cuba, organized by the Center for European Studies (CEE), Havana, 7-10 December.

2000

Third seminar on international relations, on "Latin American and Caribbean perspectives in the twenty-first century", organized by the Higher Institute of International Relations (ISRI), Havana, 26-28 April.

"Toward Latin American integration and unity", workshop organized by the Association for the Unity of Our America, Havana, 10-12 July.

Seventh seminar on "Current problems in Africa and the Middle East", organized by CEAMO, Havana, 22-24 November.

2001

The first World Social Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 25-30 January.

Second Meeting of the Peoples of the Caribbean, Dominican Republic, 19-22 April.

Fourth seminar on international relations, on "Regionalism, globalization and the world order", organized by ISRI, Havana, 25-27 April.

International seminar on "Ethics, culture, development, international law and the United Nations", organized by the United Nations Association of Cuba (ACNU), Havana, 16-18 May.

International conference on the challenges of globalization, organized by OSPAAAL-Solidarity, Madrid, 18-20 May.

Fifteenth World Festival of Youth and Students, Algiers, 8-16 August.

International seminar on "Drug trafficking: a threat to peace", organized by the regional office of the World Peace Council, Havana, 6-18 November.

2002

Second World Social Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 31 January-5 February.

International symposium on Asia and the Pacific, organized by the Centre of Asian and Oceanic Studies, Havana, 20 and 21 March.

Fifth seminar on international relations, on "The first war of the twenty-first century: international implications", organized by ISRI, Havana, 25-27 April.

Seminar on "World hunger and the Outcome of the World Food Summit: five years later", organized by the United Nations Association of Cuba, Havana, 18 July.

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1. Association for Progressive Communications*

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The Association for progressive communications is an international network of civil society organizations whose missions is to empower and support organizations, social movements and individuals in and through the use of information and communication technologies to build strategic communities and initiatives for the purpose of making meaningful contributions to equitable human development, social justice, participatory political processes and environment sustainability (from APC Mission Statement).
APC's membership spans the globe, with presence in Western, central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and North America.

When APC was first granted ECOSOC status, APC's operations were largely self-funded from member payments, and a few projects were funded by donors. Now, member dues make up about 5 % of APC's income, while our operations and programmes are largely funded by donors.

Many International NGOs with Consultative Status are affiliated to APC:

- The third World Institute (ITeM), Uruguay (General Consultative Status with ECOSOC) is an APC member
- IBASE (General Consultative Status) is involved in the APC Betinho Communication Prize
- International Women's Tribune Center is APC's executive partner in the implementation of the Women Action initiative
- FEMNET (Consultative Status) collaborated with APC's African Women's Programme
- AMARC (Consultative Status) collaborated with APC on a project in Latin America

Participation in the ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and / or conferences and other UN meetings

- ECA 40th Anniversary Conference on Women and Economic Development, 1998 International Conference on Population and Development, 5-13 September 195, Cairo.
- Fourth World Conference on Women: action for equality, development and peace, 4-15 September 1995. Circulated APC Women's Networking Support Programme statement: gender and IT: the Right of Women to have equal access to computer communications technology and networks.
- Commission on the Status of Women, 39th Session 13-24 March 1995, New York.
- World Summit for Social development, 6-12 March 1995, Copenhagen.
- UNESCO Seminar Women and the Media, February 1995, Toronto.
- ECA Informatics Symposium, 1995, Addis Ababa.

Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies

ENDA and SANGONET (Southern Africa Non Governmental Organization Network), two of APC's members in Africa, work in close cooperation and partnership with the UN's Economic Commission for Africa's African Information Society Initiative.

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APC has also worked on several discrete projects with UNDP (Women's Net South African training and Open Source GPL Telecenters), UNIFEM (Global Knowledge Gender theme preparation and Women Action women and media activities for UNGASS) and UNESCO (Tele center manual for Africa).

Other relevant activities

We have worked actively in implementing resolutions made at the World Conference on Women in 1995, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the UN Secretariat

In preparation for the UNWCW.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

- APC supported several training sessions at UN events in Africa: 40th Anniversary Conference, African Development Forum, 6th African Regional Conference on Women.
- SANGONET, APC's member, provided technical training and internships to staff from UNECA and free database hosting to UNECA.
- APC's Women's Networking Support Programme participated in the preparatory consultation for the development of Women Watch www gateway (UNIFEM/DAW/INSTRAW).

2. International Islamic Relief Organization*

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Profile:

The International Islamic Relief Organization, Saudi Arabia (IIROSA) was established on 1st January, 1978 as a humanitarian non-governmental and non-political organization in response to the increasing need for alleviating the suffering of fellow human beings worldwide and was given NGOs Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1995. It has more than 30 offices and conducts activities in more than 75.

Support of the United Nations work, purpose, and principles:

The IIROSA as stated in its aims and constitution seeks to help all people in need regardless of their ethnic, linguistic or religious backgrounds. In this respect, its activities correspond fully with some of the United Nations offices such as UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, UNECA and UNESCO.

Contribution to the work of the United Nations, the UN agencies, Inter-governmental or Non-governmental organizations:

- The IIROSA fully cooperates with UNHCR in many areas, such as: the cooperation between the two organizations in Pakistan-Afghanistan to help the Afghan and Tajik refugees and has signed an agreement enabling UNHCR patients to be referred to IIROSA-built Al-Badr Maternity and Pediatric hospital in Peshawar.
- The IIROSA participated in the PARinAC and addressed the topics of Progress of Cooperation on the Spirit of PARinAC between the NGOs and UNHCR in the field of Training, Refugees Women and

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Children, Emergency Assistance, from Emergency to Development and Inter-organizational Cooperation and Consultation. The conference was organized by UNHCR in Geneva.

- The IIROSA participated in the UN Disaster Management Training Programme for Africa (UNDMTP) to jointly train office directors, program officers and field workers in Africa.
- The IIROSA participated and delivered a working paper in the UN conference held in New York on 9th March 1993. The conference was organized by the Holy Sea and termed "Refugees as A Challenge to the 21st Century." It was addressed by former LJN Secretary-General Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali.
- The International Conference on Uprooted Muslim Refugees Women was held with the collaboration of the UNHCR offices in Geneva. It was held in Sharjah, UAE between 12-1 *5* November, 1994.
- The IIROSA attended the International Conference on Forced Migration held in 1995 in Eldorate, Kenya.
- The IIROSA participated in the conference on Muslim-Christian Dialogue on Development and Relief in Ottawa, Canada, between 17- 18 June, 1996.
- The IIROSA attended the forty-ninth session of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as an observer form 5 to 9th October, 1998 in Geneva.

IIROSA work and cooperation with Islamic and Arabs NGOs:

The IIROSA is the chair of the General Relief Committee (GRC) which consists of more than 50 Arab and Islamic NGOs worldwide. The GRC is an umbrella organization which coordinates relief work of these organizations.

I. 1995

Health Care: During 1995, IIROSA has implemented 354 health projects in 44 countries and provided medical treatment to more than 3.4 million people and established 98 medical laboratories worldwide.

Educational Care: During 1995, countries, appointed 395 teachers and sponsored 2,624 students in Asia, Africa, South America and Australia.

Emergency Relief: During 1995, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program distributed 50 tons of flour, 13 tons of rice, 10 tons of sugar, one ton of tea, 45 tons of edible oil, 91 tons of miscellaneous items including 1,600 blankets in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.

Social Welfare: During 1995, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 77,904 male and female orphans in 58 countries, established 42 orphanages in 18 countries and built one orphanage in Mali.

Human Resources Development: During 1995, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 18 vocational training centers such as secretarial, computer training, tailoring, embroidery, carpentry and motor mechanic in Asia and Africa. IIROSA's Educational program assisted 350 educational institutions in 38.

II. 1996

Health Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Health Care program has so far implemented 223 health projects such as hospitals, clinics, pharmacies and nutrition centers including 79 projects in Africa, 100 in Asia and 44 projects in Europe and the Americas. It also provided health facilities to more than 4.1 million persons in 45 countries.

Educational Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Educational Care program supported more than 347 educational institutions and schools including 20 colleges and 5 boarding schools in 39 countries as well as sponsored 983 teachers and 2,094 students in 67 countries.

Emergency Relief: During 1996, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program provided relief items to more than 3 million refugees and displaced all over the world. Assisted earthquake and flood victims in Indonesia, Egypt, Morocco, Kyrgyzstan and Dagestan by providing tents and relief materials. It also cooperated with UNHCR, by acting as an implementing agency, in the United Republic of Tanzania helping Rwandan and Burundian refugees. It cooperated with WFP in distributing food to needy people and refugees in the United Republic of Tanzania, Mozambique and Sierra Leone. It cooperated with HELP, a German-based relief organization, in distributing food to refugees in Africa and the Commonwealth Independent States (CIS).

Social Welfare: During 1996, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 83,000 orphans in 58 countries and established 25 centers for orphans and mother care in 12 countries, built 22 orphanages for 3,132 orphans.

Agricultural project: During 1996, IIROSA's Agricultural project was established to promote agricultural production. It provided financial and technical packages to beneficiary groups. It supported these agricultural projects.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Vegetables production, bees rearing, mushroom project, rabbits rearing, animal husbandry, and production of potato seeds.

Iraqi Kurdistan: Bees rearing, animal husbandry, and production of grains.

Azerbaijan: Vegetables project in Camp No. 1 and Camp No.2 as well as Agdash wheat project.
Well drilling project: During 1996, IIROSA's Well Drilling project drilled **23** deep wells, 25 1 surface wells and 15 pipeline units in Ghana, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Eritrea, Mali, Uganda, Sudan, Zambia, Senegal, Albania, Indonesia, Afghanistan, China, Yemen, India and Iraqi Kurdistan.

III. 1997

Health Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Health Care program established 9 hospitals, 98 dispensaries, polyclinics and 58 nutrition centers in Kenya, Gambia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda, Lebanon, Indonesia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Philippines. It treated 4.1 million patients in 45 countries. In addition, a special children's hospital was established in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. This hospital is extensively used by people living in IIROSA and UNHCR camps as well as local students. A polyclinic has been set up in Sarajevo with six specialized clinics. Similar clinics have been set up in Croatia and Africa.

Educational Care: The IIROSA's Educational Care program helped more than 153 schools, 14 educational institutions, 18 colleges, 5 kindergartens in 35 countries. Five hostels were built to accommodate students in Asia, Africa, and North Africa. It also sponsored 2,094 students and 983 teachers in 69 countries.

Social Welfare: During 1997, within the scope of the activities in the field of Social Welfare, IIROSA sponsored 55,000 orphans, sponsored 35 orphanages which accommodated 3,773 orphans and provided assistance to 250 orphanages that accommodated 12,000 orphans. It initiated a destitute child program to assist poor children and their families. It has also introduced special programs for the handicapped people in Addis Ababa, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Austria and some parts of Asia.

Emergency Relief: During 1997, when the war erupted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, IIROSA sponsored 15 camps in Croatia which accommodated about 800 refugees as well as distributed 20,000 tons of food. It also supported 5,000 refugees in Kenya and 12,000 Burmese (Rohingya) refugees in Bangladesh. During the Somalia civil war, it distributed 7,000 tons of food and established 15 catering units and served 150,000 meals daily. It also established the Zakho camp in Iraqi Kurdistan and distributed 2,635 tons of food stuff. In addition, IIROSA supported 50,000 Tawariq refugees in Mauritania where it distributed 2,600 tons of food stuff.

Human Resources Development Program: During 1997, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 12 vocational training centers. Carpentry, mechanical and electrical works, tailoring, secretarial, and

computer learning centers in Mauritania, Djibouti, Nigeria, Mali, Uganda, Bangladesh and Chad were set up. A mother and child care center in Philippines was established.

IV. 1998

Health Care: During 1998, IIROSA's Health Care program supervised 140 health projects in 29 countries, including 7 hospitals, 68 dispensaries, 5 clinic complexes, 35 clinics, 7 pharmacies, 5 feeding centers, 2 mobile clinics, 3 sponsored physicians and 8 other health care programmes.

Educational Care: During 1998, IIROSA's Educational Care program helped more than 229 educational institutions in 42 countries as well as sponsored 20,896 students and 2,000 teachers all over the world.

Social Welfare: During 1998, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 39,154 male and female orphans in 50 countries. It also supported 22 orphanages in 13 countries.

Emergency Relief: During 1998, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program distributed more than 6,624,661 kg of relief materials in 35 countries.

Water wells drilling project: During 1998, IIROSA's Well Drilling project drilled 103 artesian and surface wells as well as built several pipeline units in Asia and Africa.
Human Resources Development Program: During 1998, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 17 vocational training centers in Mauritania, Djibouti, Nigeria, Bagladesh, Uganda and Mali, typewriting center in Nigeria, Computer training and vocational training center in Chad.

3. New Human Rights*

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Introduction

New Human Rights (NHR) is a non-governmental organization working for the promotion, protection and development of human rights and the humanitarian law. The headquarters address is Jun in 262, Planta Baja 2, Buenos Aires, Argentina. NHR is also established in 14 Cite Vaneau, Paris, France. The Spanish name for the organization is Nuevos Derechos del Hombre (NDH), the French version is Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme (NDH) and the Italian name is Nuovo Diritti de l'Homme (NDH). Besides the above-mentioned addresses, there are two organizations in formation in Cameroon and Rome; none of them have been yet recognized as filials. The Constitutive Assembly of NHR took place in Buenos Aires on November 1990. The Economic and Social Council granted NHR as a non governmental organization, consultative status (category II) in June 1995.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/3 1/ NHR submits the quadrennial report of its activities and contributions in support of the work of the United Nations. The work of NHR has been exposed in detail through its Bulletin Noticias of which 29 issues has been published from May 1991 through December 1998. From 1995 to 1998 has been issued Bulletin numbers 14 through 29. The Bulletin is forwarded to the United Nations and widely distributed among hundreds of NGOs worldwide. On the other hand the magazine ***L'arc-en-ciel*** is published by NHR Paris with the collaboration of renowned specialists and human rights activists from France and other countries.

NHR has observed the statutes rules, especially on the convening of the semiannual assembly with the renovation of its authorities in the second half of the year. Member participation has been great. Membership has increased

* Issued without formal editing.

considerably. Among its 427 members are numerous outstanding personalities such as parliamentarians, diplomats, a former Constitutional National President, jurists, university professors, writers, artists, professionals, working and young people, all committed to the human rights cause.

Participation in United Nations conferences and involvement with its subsidiary bodies

NHR sent its delegations to numerous UN conferences.

- September 1995, World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, September 1995. NHR. The delegation was composed by 7 members (10 males, 7 females).
- NHR representatives participated every year in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.
- NHR's President visited every year New York and Geneva United Nations Offices and regularly meets with the NGOs Department and UN Secretariat Officers.
- NHR has permanent representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna UN Offices.
- All NHR's Bulletin issues regularly include briefing notes on the United Nations, UN Secretary-General Speeches, statements and UN documents.
- NHR observes every year the International Day on Human Rights and 1998 was dedicated to the commemoration of 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- NHR, through Mrs. Gabriela Arias Uriburu spoke at the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in Geneva, on the need to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to fight against the kidnapping of children by any of the parents.

Other international activities

NHR has participated during 1995 and 1998 in the following conferences and meetings:

- International Seminar on Indigenous People, Cochabamba, Bolivia (March 1996).
- Seminar on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Bogota, Colombia, (May 1996).
- Seminar on Mercosur's Human Rights, Parliament, Buenos Aires, Argentina (March 1998).
- International Congress on Human Rights, National University, Lomas de Zamora, Argentina (October 1998).

National activities

In Argentina, NHR has been involved, among others in the following activities:

- Organized and participated in 32 conferences, public meetings and round tables.
- Organized and updated a specialized Library on human rights at its Buenos Aires' headquarters amounting to 846 publications, among them numerous UN publications that are consulted by researchers and students.
- Maintains a cooperation relationship with the Inter-American Commission on human Rights (Washington), Amnesty International (London), International Commission of Jurists (Geneva) and other 26 human rights organizations worldwide.
- Receives interns to work on human rights assigned by the National University and Catholic University of Buenos Aires.

- Since October 1996, all its services are computerized and have electronic access to the Internet. The e-mail address is: ndh@datamarkets.com.ar. The web page's address is www.ndh.org.ar.
- Analyzed during 4 years the human rights situation and the humanitarian law in 72 countries.
- Published brochures on human rights issues.
- Distributed United Nations brochures on Human Rights in 6 schools and 27 libraries.
- Its staff members participated in various international missions.
- Member of the Commission of the Memory Museum of the City of Buenos Aires.
- Advises individuals seeking protection of the United Nations System or the Organization of American States on human rights issues. Its offices are open every working day. Also responds to telephone, mail or e-mail queries.
- Eight NHR membership's General Assembly were convene during 1995 through 1998.
- Maintains numerous correspondences with officers, parliamentarians and Ambassadors on human rights issues or its violations.
- All its services are free. Member's yearly fee is U$S 50.00. The budget reports are prepared and signed by an Argentinean public national accountant and all reports have been approved by the annual assembly of the organization.

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1. Charitable Society for Social Welfare*

(Special consultative status granted in 2000)

Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) aims mainly at providing an effective charity model. It strongly participates in national, social development and poverty alleviation. During the period 2000 - 2003, there was an increase in its geographical gross membership by 1,400 members (17.06%). Within the captioned years, CSSW managed to gain the confidence of the United Nations Agencies, the other international and non-governmental organizations, which resulted in receiving funds and support.

In 2000, CSSW attended some of the conferences of non-governmental organizations organized by the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It attended the Conference on 1999 Resumed Session - Attendance that was held in New York on Jan. 17th – 28th 2000, and also, the Conference on Social Development - Attendance that was held in Geneva on June 26th – 30th 2000.

CSSW, jointly, with the United Nations Agencies in Yemen undertook several projects. The Society signed an agreement with **UNDP** to implement a Micro-Start Project for the period 2000 - 2002. In this process, UNDP provided an amount of USD.150,OOO. CSSW participated as a coordinator for NGOs during the design of National Strategy of Poverty Alleviation that is directly conducted by UNDP experts and inter-sectoral team. Through its membership in the National Committee for Disaster Preparedness, the Society could be one of the implementing agencies of the "National Program for Disaster Preparedness, Management and Recovery".

Through a signed partnership agreement with **UNFPA**, CSSW implements a project of Reproductive Health & Family Planning (RH/FP). UNFPA supports the infrastmcture of CSSW via providing medical equipments for 17 RH/FP centers, basic training, a master degree scholarship for one of the project's leading staff outside Yemen, and co-funding a short training course (Management Tools of RH) for the leading health staff of the Society and another short training course (Policy & Presentation Skills in RH) for three leading staff in Egypt. With regards of CSSW's close partnership, UNFPA mentioned in the "Country Population Assessment - Yemen (2001)" P.19 that *The Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), the largest NGO in Yemen, with a wide range of services in education, health, social services and relief operations has also been involved in population and RH advocacy activities"* .

CSSW shared knowledge information in the field of population and RH/FP. It benefited from consultants and experts in the field of RH/FP. The Society, also, participated in the 2nd Country Population Assessment - Yemen (2001), and participated actively in workshops of design of the 3d Country Program 2002 - 2006, which where considered to be as training sessions for CSSWs staff. Also, It participated in the workshops and events organized by UNFPA during 2000 - 2003.

In cooperation with UNFPA representative, the chairperson of the UNAIDs Theme Group, CSSW participated effectively in designing the National Strategy for control of HIV/AIDS. It acts as an implementing agency for the action plan of the National Strategy. The Society participated effectively in planning for and implementation of the National AIDS Campaign during 2002 - 2003. In addition, during 2002, UNFPA signed a grant agreement with CSSW to implement activities to raise awareness in RH/FP for refugees at Kharaz Camp.

Moreover, the Society represents the local partner with **UNHCR** because of its great contribution in providing health, education, nutrition and social services delivered to refugees. In 2000, CSSW signed an agreement for implementing a health care project in Al-Bassateen area - Aden Governorate. This agreement renewed annually, but with reduced budgets and very limited support from UNHCR. Since 1993, the Society established an elementary school in the refugees camp. in 1999, UNHCR started to provide limited support to this school. In

* Issued without formal editing.

2001, a partnership agreement was signed between the Society and UNHCR to implement a health care project and education services in the camp. Continuously, a new agreement was signed in 2003, in which the Society provides all services of the health care project, out of which it increases its contribution in the project. Besides that, UNHCR contributed to build the capacity of the Society via funding training courses for leading staff and to provide equipments and furniture for the health facilities and school. For the time being, the Society is planning to increase cooperation in this field with UNHCR.

In cooperation with **WHO,** the Society signed an agreement with the National Malaria Control Program to implement control operations in Warazan valley - Taiz Governorate and in Sah valley – Hadramout Governorate. It benefited from the technical assistance provided by the WHO Malaria consultant, and also, from the training courses in the field operations that were held in Oct. 2002. The Society participated effectively as a member in the National Coordination Committee of the Global Fund and in designing proposals in Malaria, Tuberculosis and AIDS. CSSW is negotiating to have some funds through WHO to conduct research and field studies on health. Regularly, WHO provides the Society with periodical publications in addition to knowledge information.

CSSW is working in close cooperation with the **UNV** program to achieve recognition, promotion and facilitation of voluntary work in the Yemeni community. Because of that, the Society was appointed to be the national focal point of the International Year for Volunteers (IYV). In this process, it worked together with *UNV* in motivating volunteers, production and distribution of Information Education Communication (IEC) materials, and sharing information. As a result of mutual cooperation, the Society participated in the symposium of closing ceremony of IYV in Geneva, which was co-funded with the *UNV* Program in Yemen.

In cooperation with **UNICEF** during the period of 2000 -2003, CSSW participated in 2 training courses funded by UNICEF and organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs through the Child Protection Project. It, also participated in **3** workshops in the field of nutrition and breastfeeding promotion organized by UNICEF. Meanwhile, CSSW is working on to sign a letter of understanding with UNICEF through the Child Development Project to implement activities in the fields of encouraging girls education, studies and researches and institutional support for the Society and to Osama Magazine - the only Yemeni children magazine.

As an active member in the Global Fund National Coordination Committee, CSSW achieved many activities that are considered to be a response to the implementation of the United Nations Resolutions. For example, with the emergence of WHO'S psychiatric health resolutions in the international day 2001, CSSW started a new psychiatric hospital for men in Sana'a which increased accessibility to this service in Yemen.

Within the process of AIDS, Malaria, and TB roll back programs, the Society participated effectively in designing proposals and execution of campaigns.

CSSW benefited from the missions held by many officials of the United Nations through consultation and close cooperation with consultants from UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS, UNHCR and UNDP in different fields -population, development, reproductive health, family planning, information, education and communication.

In November 2001, CSSW represented the Republic of Yemen in the Symposium of the Closing Ceremony of International Year for Volunteers in Geneva. CSSW's executive director attended the symposium and presented a paper titled "Role of Volunteerism in Health in Yemen", specifying CSSW's achievements.

Health awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS for refugees was implemented by CSSW at Kharaz and Al-Bassateen areas in Aden and funded by UNHCR during the year of 2002 - 2003. As a joint activity, CSSW organized a workshop of International and National Non-Governmental Organizations in Sana'a in September 2002. The main theme was "Networking to Develop Capacity". Most of the United Nations agencies participated by presentations of papers in different fields such as basic minimum needs, program of malaria eradication in Socatra Island, capacity building and technical assistance for national societies, nutrition projects in the health field, . . . etc. The UN Agencies participation in this workshop was appreciated highly from other

2. International Association of Penal Law*

(Special consultative status granted in 1948)

1. XVII[th] International Congress of Penal Law

The International Association of Penal Law, an organization in consultative status with ECOSOC, devoted its activities to the preparation of its main scientific event, i.e. its quinquennial International Congress of Penal Law, which will be held in Beijing, China, in September 2004.

After the Budapest Congress in 1999, which covered for the first time in the history of the Association's Congresses a single subject, "Criminal Justice Systems - Facing the Challenge of Organized Crime", the forthcoming XVII* International Congress of Penal Law will again deal with different topics in the four traditional areas of AIDP-Congresses (1. Penal Law - General part; 2. Penal Law - Special Part, 3. Procedural law and 4. International Questions).

The XVII[th] International Congress of Penal Law will be held in Beijing, China, from 12 - 19 September 2004. In case of interest, more detailed information can be found on http://www. chinalawsocietv.com.

The four topics are

- Criminal Responsibility of Minors in National and International Legal Order;
- Corruption and Related Crimes in International Economic Activities; thereby contributing to United Nation's Global Program against Corruption;
- Principles of Criminal Procedure and their Application in Disciplinary Proceedings; and
- Concurrent National and International Jurisdiction and the Principle, Ne bis in idem'

These topics were prepared in preparatory colloquia held in Vienna, Tokyo, Santiago de Chile and in Berlin. The participants of these preparatory colloquia adopted on the basis of general reports draft resolutions for discussion and eventual endorsement by the Congress.

The national reports submitted to the Preparatory Colloquia as well as the General Reports and the Draft Resolutions were published in four consecutive volumes of the *Revue Internationale de Droit penal /International Review of Penal Law,* totaling over 2,200 pages.

Apart from these four topics the Congress will also deal in Round Table Discussions with the topics:

- Regional and National Patterns in the International Trafficking in Women and Children, thus discussing the effects of the Protocol to the Palermo Convention, and
- Computer Crimes, Cyber-Terrorism, Child Pornography and Financial Crimes which were also prepared in preparatory colloquia in Rio de Janeiro and in Athens.

* Issued without formal editing.

2. Corruption

With a view to United Nation's Global Program against Corruption the Association the Association did not only identify corruption as one of the four topics of the next International Congress of Penal Law (see above), but it organized also a seminar on the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Paris in spring 2003. This seminar was aimed at a broad discussion with AIDP Board-Members coming from all over the world.

Corruption was also a topic of the First Congress of Young Penalists (see below).

Moreover, the Young Penalists themselves organized another international seminar on "Corruption and Related Crimes in International Business Activities" in Budapest in September 2002.

3. Young Penalists

At its Congress in Budapest the International Association of Penal Law established a Committee of Young Penalists within the Association. The Association organized together with the Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC) in Siracusa, Sicily, Italy, two Congresses of Young Penalists which discussed the following subjects:

First Congress of Young Penalists (June 2001)

- International Criminal Court - The Implementation in the National Legislations
- Computer Criminality
- International Trafficking in Women and Children and
- Corruption

The Second Conference of Young Penalists (June 2002) dealt with the topic "Contemporary Perspectives on Terrorism".

4. Information on the International Association of Penal Law

The International Association of Penal Law established a new website: http://www.penal.org, on which you can find general information on AIDP Activities.

Moreover you have access to general AIDP publications and to the *REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE DROIT PENAL* when you subscribed to it.

3. Medecins sans frontières*

(General consultative status granted in 2000)

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) is one of the world's largest independent humanitarian medical organizations. Each year the organization sends more than 2,500 volunteer doctors, nurses, other medical professionals, logistics experts, water/sanitation engineers, and administrators to join 15,000 locally hired staff who provide medical aid in nearly 80 countries. Medecins Sans Frontieres assists victims of armed conflict, epidemics, and natural and man-made disasters, as well as populations lacking health care due to geographic or social isolation. In 1999, the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

* Issued without formal editing.

Medecins Sans Frontieres's international network is comprised of 18 national sections: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China (Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States. The International Secretariat, based in Brussels, coordinates liaison activities in Geneva and New York with other international organizations and with the United Nations, including the Member States of ECOSOC. Medecins Sans Frontieres gained special consultative status to ECOSOC in 1993, and was upgraded to "general status" in 2000.

The vast majority of Medecins Sans Frontieres's revenue comes from some 2 million individual private donors around the world. Medecins Sans Frontieres also receives grants from international organizations and governments for up to 20% of its total resources, of which about 2% comes from UNHCR and UNICEF (based on 2002 figures). With these funds, Medecins Sans Frontieres provided basic health care to repatriated refugees in Angola, assisted refugees of Myanmar along the Myanmar-Thailand border, provided medical care to Angolan and Congolese refugees in Zambia, and assisted displaced populations in other crisis situations.

In an effort to improve the situation of populations in crisis, Medecins Sans Frontieres unites direct medical care with a commitment to bearing witness and speaking out. Based on direct field experience, Medecins Sans Frontieres brings specific information from the field about the situation and the plight of the people whom we are assisting, raising concerns when, for instance, protection of civilians is insufficient or inadequate. Where and when appropriate, Medecins Sans Frontieres also expresses concerns about the quality and effectiveness of relief actions, and the obstacles placed in their way, such as insecurity for aid workers and lack of access to populations in need.

Medecins Sans Frontieres considers that the United Nations is a critical forum to engage and address Member States, particularly at the Security Council. Medecins Sans Frontieres also recognizes the key role that the UN Secretariat and UN agencies, each with their specific responsibilities, play in the humanitarian field, and is committed to dialogue, exchange and cooperation when appropriate.

In the past 5 years, Medecins Sans Frontieres has actively engaged the United Nations, in the field and in Geneva and in New York. Medecins Sans Frontieres representatives have participated in numerous "Arria meetings" of the Security Council to brief its members on particularly urgent or important issues, including the protection of civilians in armed conflict (April, 2000) and on the humanitarian situations in Liberia (October, 2001), Angola (March, 2002), the Mano River Region (May, 2002), Iraq (April, 2003) and again in Liberia (September, 2003). Medecins Sans Frontieres's UN representatives also participated in a number of conferences, notably on the Brahimi report, and in symposia organized by the International Peace Academy, such as "The Responsibility to Protect" (February 2002) and "The United Nations Security Council and Civil Society: the Evolving Agenda and Partnership" (April 2003).

In 1999, Medecins Sans Frontieres launched a campaign to address the lack of access to essential medicines for most of the world's most vulnerable people. Medecins Sans Frontieres has established a strong dialogue both in the field and at the international level with representatives of governments, WHO, UNAIDs, UNICEF, WTO and the World Bank to identify and overcome barriers to access to essential medicines in the field, ensure that patient rights come before patent rights, and stimulate research and development for neglected diseases. Medecins Sans Frontieres also remains engaged with the International Co-ordination Group (ICG), created along with UNICEF and WHO in 1997, to ensure better co-ordination to guarantee the availability of vaccine stocks for meningitis. In 2001, MSF actively participated in the UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS (UNGASS).

In addition, Medecins Sans Frontieres's representatives to the UN in New York and Geneva participate in weekly meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), chaired by the office of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. Similar meetings are held in Geneva with ICVA and the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR), an alliance of humanitarian aid and relief organizations. Over the past two years, Medecins Sans Frontieres has chaired the SCHR, and as such, has represented the alliance in various fora. In many occasions, Medecins Sans Frontieres's representatives have discussed the dire situation of refugees and displaced populations with UNHCR, WFP and OCHA officials. Medecins Sans Frontieres also has, on numerous occasions, held meetings with representatives of the UN Secretariat, agencies, and Member States both in New York and Geneva in an effort to improve the humanitarian response for specific crises. Besides these many formal meetings and committees, informal consultation and information exchange at every level takes place on a regular basis between MSF, UN representatives, donor countries and Members States of the United Nations, both at headquarters and in the field.

4. World Human Dimension*

(Special consultative status granted in 2000)

Purpose and activities: the purposes of the WHD as stated in its Charter are as follows:

"Formation of the property, assets and material base for financing WHD activities; consolidation of intellectual potential of Foundation's members in implementations of programs and projects to promote national progress towards socially and economically developed society based on law."

Reference books on non-governmental organizations contain the following information about the profile of the WHD:

"Established in June 1991 and registered as a non-profit Foundation by the Ministry of Justice of Russia. Basic activities involve initiating concerted actions of private organizations and NGOs in humanitarian field, participating in and co-sponsoring conferences and programs on international and UN related matters such as a Development, IC Technologies, Environment and Environmental Monitoring, Drug Problem, Human Rights, etc. Closely cooperates with EMERCOM of Russia in implementation of humanitarian projects. Associates with UN Secretariat's Department of Public Information and has a Special Consultative Status with Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Also associates with the International Association of Lions Clubs".

Association with profile organizations and NGOs:

WHD activity is carried out through association with national and international profile organizations and NGOs.

In April 2001 WHD became a member of the NGO Council to the State Duma of the Russian Federation. The NGO Council's agenda often deals with the UN related matters ("International Cooperation, Civil Diplomacy, Peacemaking"; " Globalism in a Contemporary World", etc.).

For the reported period close relationship has been established with International Association of Lions Clubs (WHD has co-sponsored several Youth Exchange programs during summers of 2000, 2001, 2002) and Peace on the Planet, Canada (WHD and Peace on the Planet sponsored in 2002-2003 an International Children's Drawings project under the theme "Children of the World against Violence, Children of the World are Drawing Peace").

WHD is a member of the NGO and Charities Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia and Ukraine. The agenda items of the Committee often relate to the international problems of the NGOs ("Legal problems confronting NGO and Charities Organizations. International Experience", February 5, 2002).

* Issued without formal editing.

WHD closely monitors agenda of and attends seminars and conferences organized by the national NGOs and the UN Information Center in Moscow (International Seminar "Ecotourism, a Tool for Sustainable Development in the 21st Century in the transitional economies of the CIS countries" in 2002; seminar at the UN Information Center on "UN political, economical and social programs for the youth representatives from Russian regions" in June 2002 and the round table "Development of Institutes of Civil Society in Contemporary Russia" in June 2, 2003).

WHD succeeded in organizing the international conference "Social Liability of Business in Russia" under sponsorship of UNESCO. Two stages of the conference were held in Moscow respectively in May and September 2001.

WHD association with the UN:

WHD participates on a regular basis in the annual DPI/NGO conferences of non-governmental organizations. WHD's delegates to the conference in 2002 and 2003 were invited to participate in the UN radio programs. WHD delegates were also received by Mr. Giandomenico Picco, Personal Representative of the Secretary General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations. A WHD delegate spoke at one of the panels of the 2002 conference.

In March 2003 WHD delegates participated in the 47th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women and presented "A Book of Peace" to the Dag Hummarskjold Library.

For the reported period WHD has participated in the work of the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (Conference "Environment, Education and the United Nations", 11 January, 2002, UN Headquarters, New York; Conference "Literacy Now: Building AN Educated World", 31 January, 2003, UN Headquarters, New York).

WHD has also become an active participant of the Aid and Trade Exhibitions in Europe organized by the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) in 2002, 2003 and 2004 (January 28-29).

Several magazines and journals carried analytical material by our representatives in New York Ms. Valentina Golubnichy which dwelt upon humanitarian activates of the United Nations and the role of the International Aid and Trade Exhibitions in international humanitarian assistance.

Current projects:

From July 2003 the WHD Foundation has been engaged in implementing the project "Computer Bank of the Sign Languages with Internet Access" for the better worldwide communication between the hearing people and the deaf and hard of hearing. The project is being implemented in association with the International Lions Club and aims to receive a Designated Gant from the International Lions Club.

Currently and through September 2004 WHD will be also involved in implementing the project in support of the participation of the Russian Team of sportsmen with physical disabilities in Paralympics Games in Greece in September 2004. The program was advertised at the First International "Sport' 04" Exhibition which took place in Moscow from March 31 through April 2 2004 where the WHD took part as an NGO.

Both projects meet goals established by the UN General Assembly resolution No 48/96 "Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities" of 20 December, 1993.